

REMARKS

Applicants previously canceled claims 1-64 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. In the present amendment, applicants cancel claims 65-79, 82, 84, 90, 93-102, 108, 111-117, 119, 120, and 122 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of those claims in a related application in the future. Claims 80, 83, 85, 88, 91, 103, 106, 109, 118, 121, 123, and 125 have been amended to be in independent form and include all of the elements of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, those amendments add no new matter.

I. Rejection of Claims 71, 72, 99, 100, and 112 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner rejected claims 71, 72, 99, 100, and 112 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly “being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.” Action at page 2, item no. 1. Applicants respectfully traverse that rejection.

Solely to expedite prosecution, and without acquiescing to the Examiner’s contentions, applicants have canceled claims 71, 72, 99, 100, and 112 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of those claims in a related application in the future. Accordingly, the rejection is moot. Therefore, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 71, 72, 99, 100, and 112 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

II. Rejection of Claims 65-79, 82, 84, 90, 93-102, 108, 111-117, 119, 120, and 122 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 65-79, 82, 84, 90, 93-102, 108, 111-117, 119, 120, and 122 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Lienau et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,548,256) ("Lienau"). Action at page 3, item no. 4. Applicants respectfully traverse that rejection.

Solely to expedite prosecution, and without acquiescing to the Examiner's contentions, applicants have canceled claims 65-79, 82, 84, 90, 93-102, 108, 111-117, 119, 120, and 122 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of those claims in a related application in the future. Accordingly, the rejection is moot. Therefore, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 65-79, 82, 84, 90, 93-102, 108, 111-117, 119, 120, and 122 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Lienau..

III. Objection to Claims 80, 81, 83, 85-89, 91, 92, 103-107, 109, 110, 118, 121, and 123-126

The Examiner stated that "[c]laims 80, 81, 83, 85-89, 91, 92, 103-107, 109, 110, 118, 121, and 123-126 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." Action at page 4, item no. 5. Applicants have amended claims 80, 83, 85, 88, 91, 103, 106, 109, 118, 121, 123, and 125 to be in independent form and to include all of the elements of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 81, 86, 87, 89, 92, 104, 105, 107, 110, 124, and 126 depend directly or indirectly from one of claims 80, 85, 88, 91, 103, 106, 109, 123, and 125. Thus, all of the claims subject to this objection have either been amended according to

the Examiner's suggestion or ultimately depend from such an amended claim.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully assert that claims 80, 81, 83, 85-89, 91, 92, 103-107, 109, 110, 118, 121, and 123-126 are in condition for allowance. Thus, applicants respectfully request the timely allowance of claims 80, 81, 83, 85-89, 91, 92, 103-107, 109, 110, 118, 121, and 123-126.

CONCLUSION


Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of this application. In the event that the Examiner does not find the application allowable, applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (650) 849-6749 to set up an interview.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 9, 2007

By: 

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